## WESTMINSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT 36 LOCUST STREET

WESTMINSTER, MD 21157 410-848-4646

JEFFREY SPAULDING CHIEF OF POLICE



## MEDIA RELEASE

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 2, 2011

On December 10, 2011 at 0730 hrs, the Westminster Police Department in conjunction with the Westminster Wal-Mart will be hosting our 8<sup>th</sup> Annual "Shop With A Cop" Program. The "Shop With A Cop" program originated in 1978 as a way to give deserving children an opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts for their family members. The program also gives children the opportunity to meet and spend time with police officers in a positive and non-confrontational environment.

Our "Shop With a Cop" celebration will take place at the Westminster Wal-Mart located at 280 Woodward Road Westminster, Maryland on December 10, 2011. The children selected will be teamed with a Police Department employee to pick out gifts for the holiday season. Wal-Mart will be providing gift cards in order for the children to purchase their holiday gifts. After our shopping is completed, everyone will return to the Westminster Senior Center where we will wrap those gifts that were purchased. Following the gift-wrapping, the Police Department will be hosting a holiday party from approx. 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Westminster Senior Center for all participating families to attend. Additionally, a visit from Santa will take place during the holiday party.

Over 90 local businesses have made a donation to support the "Shop With A Cop" program. Approximately 275 "Angels" were purchased by the citizens of Carroll County. These gifts will be distributed to the children and their families.

MEDIA CONTACT

SGT. KEITH BENFER
COMMUNITY EDUCATION
SECTION
WESTMINSTER POLICE
DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT
36 LOCUST STREET
WESTMINSTER, MARYLAND
21157
(410) 857-9282

Please contact Sgt. Keith Benfer at 410-857-9282 with any questions.